

OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

FEBRUARY 17, 1888.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ROGERS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 4920.]

The Committee on the Judiciary, having had under consideration House bill No. 4920, report the same back with the following amendment: Strike out all from and including the word "become" in line 16 down to and inclusive of the words "United States" in line 18.

The bill is simply amendatory of a provision of the Indian appropriation bill approved March 3, 1887 (24 Stat. L., p. 464), and extends the protection of the United States laws and jurisdiction over the posse comitatus and guards who may be employed by the marshals in the Indian Territory in the execution of United States process. Its necessity is seen in the fact that Indians required to serve in the said capacities have been repeatedly killed in the last few months while on duty by those of their race while under arrest, and in some instances by the friends of the prisoners after the service had been performed; and the Indian courts have either refused or neglected to take any cognizance of the cases or even to apprehend the murderers.

The committee believe that all officers of the Government should have the shield of the law's protection thrown around them in the execution of its process, and that if the Indian government will not afford protection in its own courts that the United States should do so.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the passage of the bill, with the amendment.